



Virtual Chicken

The Female Reproductive Tract

www.virtualchicken.org

Lab: Where Is The Shell?

Using a chemical reaction, the egg shell can be removed and the membrane and yolk can be seen.

Materials

8 oz drinking glass
1 raw egg
Vinegar

Procedure

Place the raw egg into the glass.
Pour vinegar over the egg until it is completely covered.
Watch the egg for several minutes observing the bubbles forming on the shell.
After 24 hours, remove the egg from the glass and rinse the egg (gently) under cool water.
Discard vinegar.
Cover the egg again with fresh vinegar in the glass and wait another day.
Rinse egg gently under cool water. What is left is the egg contained within the membrane with no hard outer protective shell.



Thinking About It

Bubbles will immediately form on the egg shell, but they will become bigger over time as the vinegar reacts with the egg shell. A simple chemical reaction is occurring, the vinegar (acetic acid) is reacting with the egg shell (calcium carbonate) and creating carbon dioxide gas as a byproduct.

